

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

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33. (Canceled)

34. (New) An alarm system, comprising:

a motion detector to detect motion in a desired area;

a safety detector to detect a safety condition;

a transmitter to transmit a communication to a person; and

a processor functionally connected to the motion detector, the safety detector and the transmitter, and, in response to the safety detector detecting the safety condition, to cause the transmitter to transmit a first communication, and, in response to the motion detector detecting motion, to cause the transmitter to perform at least one of transmitting a second communication or ceasing transmission of the first communication.

35. (New) The alarm system of claim 34 wherein the transmitter transmits a tone for at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

36. (New) The alarm system of claim 34 wherein the transmitter transmits a plurality of tones for at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

37. (New) The alarm system of claim 34 and further comprising:
a receiver to receive an alarm signal from a remote safety device which detects a safety condition; and

wherein the processor is also functionally connected to the receiver, and, in response to the receiver receiving the alarm signal, the processor causes the transmitter to transmit at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

38. (New) The alarm system of claim 34 and further comprising:
a receiver to receive an alarm signal from a remote safety device which detects a safety condition; and

wherein the processor is also functionally connected to the receiver, and, in response to the receiver receiving the alarm signal, the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the first communication, and, in response to the motion detector detecting motion, to cause the transmitter to perform at least one of transmitting the second communication or ceasing transmission of the first communication.

39. (New) The alarm system of claim 34 wherein the safety detector detects at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, or seismic vibrations.

40. (New) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is at least one of an audible communication, a visual communication, a vibratory communication, or an olfactory scent.

41. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the audible communication comprises an audible customized communication.

42. (New) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is to awaken the person.

43. (New) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is to alert the person to the safety condition.

44. (New) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is to provide an instruction to the person.

45. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the second communication is an audible customized communication transmitted in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

46. (New) The system of claim 34 wherein the first communication is an audible communication in the voice of a first person and the second communication is an audible communication in the voice of a second person.

47. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to cease transmitting the first communication and begin transmitting the second communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

48. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to alternate transmitting the first communication and the second communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

49. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the transmitter comprises a speaker.

50. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the system is portable.

51. (New) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a memory, an input device for accepting a user command, and a sound input device for receiving an audible signal from the user; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing the received audible signal as an audible customized communication in the memory, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the audible customized communication as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

52. (New) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored audible communications, and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of an audible communication from the plurality of stored audible communications; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected audible communication as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

53. (New) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored names, and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of a name from the plurality of stored names; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected name as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

54. (New) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a voice synthesizer to generate a spoken message from a user command, an input device for accepting the user command, and a memory to store at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by causing the memory to store the at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the generated message as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

55. (New) The system of claim 54 wherein the user command is a name, the voice synthesizer generates the name as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated name as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

56. (New) The system of claim 54 wherein the user command is an instruction to the person, the voice synthesizer generates the instruction as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated instruction as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

57. (New) An alarm system, comprising:
a motion detector to detect motion in a desired area;
a receiver to receive an alarm signal from a remote safety device which detects a safety condition;
a transmitter to transmit a communication to the person; and
a processor functionally connected to the motion detector, the receiver and the transmitter, and, in response to the receiver receiving the alarm signal, to cause the transmitter to transmit a first communication, and, in response to the motion detector detecting motion, to cause the transmitter to perform at least one of transmitting a second communication or ceasing transmission of the first communication.

58. (New) The alarm system of claim 57 wherein the transmitter transmits a tone for at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

59. (New) The alarm system of claim 57 wherein the transmitter transmits a plurality of tones for at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

60. (New) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is at least one of an audible communication, a visual communication, a vibratory communication, or an olfactory scent.

61. (New) The system of claim 60, wherein the audible communication comprises an audible customized communication.

62. (New) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is to awaken the person.

63. (New) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is to alert the person to a safety problem.

64. (New) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first communication or the second communication is to provide an instruction to the person.

65. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit at least the first communication if the received alarm signal corresponds to a predetermined signal.

66. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the second communication is an audible customized communication transmitted in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

67. (New) The system of claim 57 wherein the first communication is an audible communication in the voice of a first person and the second communication is an audible communication in the voice of a second person.

68. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory, and wherein at least one of the first communication and the second communication is the stored audible communication is selected from a plurality of stored names in the memory.

69. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received alarm signal from a remote safety device as a stored signal in the memory, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the at least one communication if a subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

70. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the receiver comprises an acoustic transducer to receive the alarm signal

71. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to cease transmitting the first communication and to begin transmitting the second communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

72. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to alternate transmitting the first communication and the second communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

73. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the transmitter comprises a speaker.

74. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the visual communication comprises light.

75. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the receiver is connected to the remote safety device by means other than via a cable.

76. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the receiver is functionally connected to the remote safety device via a cable.

77. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the system is portable.

78. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received audible signal as an audible customized communication in the memory, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the audible customized communication as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

79. (New) The system of claim 78 wherein the receiver receives the received audible signal.

80. (New) The system of claim 78 and further comprising a sound input device for receiving the received audible signal.

81. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received alarm signal in the memory, and wherein the processor responds to a subsequently received alarm signal by causing the transmitter to transmit the first communication if the subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

82. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored audible communications and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of an audible communication from the plurality of stored audible communications as a customized audible communication; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected audible communication as the first communication.

83. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored audible names, and an input device for accepting a user command; and
wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of a name from the plurality of stored audible names; and
wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected name as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

84. (New) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a voice synthesizer to generate a spoken message from a user command, an input device for accepting the user command, and a memory to store at least one of the command and the generated message; and
wherein the processor responds to the command by causing the memory to store the at least one of the command and the generated message; and
wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the generated message as at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

85. (New) The system of claim 84 wherein the user command is a name, the voice synthesizer generates the name as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated name as the at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

86. (New) The system of claim 84 wherein the user command is an instruction to the person, the voice synthesizer generates the instruction as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated instruction as the at least one of the first communication and the second communication.

87. (New) A method for responding to a safety condition, comprising the steps of:
monitoring for a safety condition;
if the safety condition is detected then transmitting a first communication to a person;
monitoring for motion by the person; and
if the motion is detected then performing at least one of transmitting a second communication to the person or ceasing transmission of the first communication.

88. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the first communication and the second communication includes the name of the person.

89. (New) The alarm system of claim 87 wherein at least one of the first communication and the second communication comprises a tone.

90. (New) The alarm system of claim 87 wherein at least one of the first communication and the second communication comprises a plurality of tones.

91. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring for at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, seismic vibrations, or an alarm signal from a remote safety device.

92. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting at least one of an audible communication, a visual communication, a vibratory communication, or an olfactory scent.

93. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting a customized audible communication.

94. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting a communication to awaken the person.

95. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting a communication to alert the person to the safety condition.

96. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises providing an instruction to the person.

97. (New) The method of claim 87 and, if the motion is detected, then ceasing transmittal of the first communication.

98. (New) The method of claim 87 and, if the motion is detected, then alternating transmittal of the first communication and the second communication.

99. (New) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting an audible communication and storing the audible communication as a customized audible communication; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the customized audible communication.

100. (New) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting a user selection of an audible communication from a plurality of stored audible communications as a customized audible communication; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the customized audible communication.

101. (New) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting a user selection of a name from a plurality of stored audible names; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the selected name.

102. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring for an alarm signal from a remote safety device and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command from a user and, if the command is detected, then accepting a received alarm signal and storing the received alarm signal; and transmitting the first communication if a subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

103. (New) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command to generate a voice-synthesized message; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the synthesized message.

104. (New) The method of claim 103 wherein the user command is a name, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the synthesized name.

105. (New) The method of claim 103 wherein the user command is an instruction, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the synthesized instruction.

106. (New) A method for responding to a safety condition, comprising the steps of:
monitoring for a safety condition;
if the safety condition is detected then transmitting a communication in a first voice to a person; and
transmitting a communication in a second voice to the person.

107. (New) The method of claim 106 and further comprising ceasing transmission of the communication in the first voice before the transmission of the communication in a second voice is begun.

108. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice are alternately transmitted.

109. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring for at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, seismic vibrations, or an alarm signal from a remote safety device.

110. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the name of the person.

111. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting a customized audible communication.

112. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice is to awaken the person.

113. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice is to alert the person.

114. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice is to provide an instruction to the person.

115. (New) The method of claim 106 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting an audible communication and storing the audible communication as the communication in the first voice.

116. (New) The method of claim 106 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting an audible communication and storing the audible communication as the communication in the second voice.

117. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring an alarm signal from a remote safety device and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting a received alarm signal and storing the received alarm signal; and transmitting the communication in the first voice if a subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

118. (New) The method of claim 106 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command to generate a voice-synthesized message in at least one of the first voice and the second voice; and

wherein the at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the synthesized message.

119. (New) The method of claim 118 wherein the user command is a name, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the synthesized name.

120. (New) The method of claim 118 wherein the user command is an instruction, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the synthesized instruction.

121. (New) An alarm system, comprising:
a safety detector to detect a safety condition;
a transmitter to transmit a communication to a person; and
a processor functionally connected to the motion detector, the safety detector and the transmitter, and, in response to the safety detector detecting the safety condition, to cause the transmitter to transmit a communication in a first voice and a communication in a second voice.

122. (New) The alarm system of claim 121 wherein the safety detector detects at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, seismic vibrations, or an alarm signal from a remote safety device.

123. (New) The system of claim 121 wherein at least one of the communication in the first voice or the communication in the second voice is to awaken the person.

124. (New) The system of claim 121 wherein at least one of the communication in the first voice or the communication in the second voice is to alert the person to the safety condition.

125. (New) The system of claim 121 wherein at least one of the communication in the first voice or the communication in the second voice is to provide an instruction to the person.

126. (New) The system of claim 121, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to cease transmitting the communication in the first voice and begin transmitting the second communication in the second voice.

127. (New) The system of claim 121, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to alternate transmitting the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice.

128. (New) The system of claim 121, wherein the transmitter comprises a speaker.

129. (New) The system of claim 121, wherein the system is portable.

130. (New) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received audible signal, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the stored audible signal as the communication in the first voice.

131. (New) The system of claim 130 and further comprising a sound input device for receiving the received audible signal.

132. (New) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received audible signal, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the stored audible signal as the communication in the second voice.

133. (New) The system of claim 132 and further comprising a sound input device for receiving the received audible signal.

134. (New) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a memory, an input device for accepting a user command, and a sound input device for receiving an alarm signal from the remote safety device; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing the received alarm signal in the memory, and wherein the processor responds to a subsequently received alarm signal by causing the transmitter to transmit the communication in the first voice if the subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

135. (New) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a voice synthesizer to generate a spoken message in at least one of the first voice and the second voice from a user command, an input device for accepting the user command, and a memory to store at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by causing the memory to store the at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the generated message as at least one of the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice.

136. (New) The system of claim 135 wherein the user command is a name, the voice synthesizer generates the name as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated name as the at least one of the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice.

137. (New) The system of claim 135 wherein the user command is an instruction to the person, the voice synthesizer generates the instruction as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated instruction as the at least one of the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice.